

Joan M. Smith, Editor



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

All packed and ready to go, Aquinas freshman band members waited for buses to whisk them off to Canada.

Aquinas Band Entertains Our Northern Neighbors

By Diane Farrell

The Aquinas Concert and Jazz Bands left for their spring tour of Montreal and Quebec on Wednesday, March 12. They performed in six concerts and returned to Rochester on Saturday night, March 15.

There are about 75 students in the concert and jazz bands, including three girls from Nazareth Academy.

The Aquinas Band Boosters, a parents' organization, worked at stores taking inventories, sold dinner books, and sold doughnuts to raise over \$5,000 for the tour. The school didn't have to contribute any money for the tour, said Bob Russell, Sr., a member of the band boosters for nine years.

Russell said that the band boosters are "a lot of hard working parents. We have a

lot of fun. The kids are good. They make us very proud," proud," he said.

Don Czaplinski is Aquinas' band director this year. He lived in Texas for 14 years, and this is not his first tour with a band. He thinks that tours are "a definite incentive for students to join the band."

The songs they practiced for the tour were: Concert Band — Oh, Canada; El Capio; Prelude and Fugue in B Flat Major; Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken; Allouette; Superman Suite; and Masque. Jazz Band — Opus One, MacArthur Park, Harlem Nocturne, Sing, Birdland, Sudden Sam, and Le Freak.

Bob Russell, Jr., percussionist and junior at Aquinas, said that he was looking forward to "the experience of playing in another country and in front of people our own age."

Last year the band went to Toronto. Paul Griffin, a sophomore who plays the trumpet, said that the band is "going further and further. Next year it'll be Europe, Australia."

Kelly Chamberlain is a clarinet player in the band. She is a member of the Nazareth band as well as the Aquinas band and said, "It's an honor to be chosen." Sister Beverly, music director at Nazareth, chooses which girls can play in the Aquinas band.

Kelly said that the Aquinas boys are "nice to us and we have a good time with them."

Bob Russell, Sr., said that the band members would learn to get along with people from another country and learn another lifestyle while they were in Canada. He said the tour is "a reward... it's a teaching."

Time Out For Faith

By Brother Michael Colasuonno, CFC Bishop Kearney

Young people are used to parents and teachers telling them what their religion should mean to them as we celebrate the various feasts of the Church. These same parents and teachers are concerned about how much of what they teach is absorbed. In approaching an article on what Easter should mean to a group of adolescents, I could think of no better way to do it than to ask such a group what the message of Easter meant to them.

Easter to them is: "A time to be joyful... a time to look at Christ more closely... a time for prayer, it's the least we can do for all God has done for us... giving thanks to the Lord... remembering that Jesus has conquered death... the coming of Spring... love and hope for the world to get better because God has hope for us"

remembering what God has given and not just what you get... time to show God you love him." And, at the end of the discussion one summary comment from the back of the room: "Just tell them that Easter is life."

As we read through the Scriptures for the Easter season, the same themes emerge, predominated by the same summary — joy over life. Lent is an examination of where we have been and where we are, but it is at Easter that we rejoice at what we have become and what we can be. The message of Easter is not only that Jesus rose, but that He lives. We are a redeemed people and our God is one who lives and is with us. Joy is of its nature an outgoing emotion, one we wish to share. The joy and enthusiasm of the early Apostles was a desire to share with all people the great reality that Jesus was alive, that He lived with them and in them, and that He would do the same for all who believed.

In early Roman times, March was the beginning of the New Year, just as Spring is always the season that ushers in new life. And even though the Liturgical year formally begins at Advent, Easter has always been seen by the Church as a new beginning. That is one reason why every Sunday is a "little Easter." At this time of new beginning and renewal of faith in the Risen Lord, a most appropriate question to ask ourselves is "How alive is Jesus to me in my life?" Easter is not a time when we are "supposed to be happy." If Jesus is a living person for us, we cannot help being happy because He is with us, loving us and watching over us. We will still become discouraged, we will still fall, we will still sin. We will still need Lent and the evaluation and improvement of our lives. But the message of Easter is that we will do none of these things alone. When we are happy, the Lord is with us, and when we are down He is still with us, helping to pick us up.

There is a bumper sticker around that you see occasionally which reads "I found Him." Easter tells us that He was never lost; that we can all find Him if we look around us and within us.



Winners Circle

RapAround weekly will run a photo of a group of students taken somewhere in the diocese. One person will be circled and if that person brings the clipping to the Courier-Journal before noon of the Tuesday following our publication date, he or she will receive \$5. This week's photo was taken at Aquinas during band embarkation for Canada. The person circled should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon, Tuesday, April 1, to receive the \$5.

The Way It Was March 1975

Aquinas icer Wayne Rood, with a hat-trick, led his team to a 5-3 victory over Irondequoit, giving the Little Irish the Monroe County League Championship. Aquinas finished with an overall record of 14-2-2 under the coaching of Bill Lukaszonas.

Joseph Nobel, a student at Cardinal Mooney and an Eagle Scout, won a certificate of merit in the Scout Photo Scholarship contest sponsored by Eastman Kodak. His winning photo was a reversed black and white shot of a tree-lined street.

Mary Blasi of St. Agnes, in the Speaking-Out column, wrote about excessive TV viewing. "It is an escape from the development of a person's intellectual and creative potential," she said. "Not only is habitual viewing harmful but the quality and variety of most shows is appalling." She reported there were 23 police shows, 19 game shows, and 13 soap operas that came across the video screen.

On The Fashion Runway

St. Agnes girls had a chance to sample the fun, work and glamour of the modeling world during the school's Parents' Club Fashion Show, March 16.

Models included: Laurie Beikirch, Kathy Lilly, Mercy Morano, Cindy Fredette, Margot and Cindy Owens, Katherine Nadal, Karen and Colleen Dugan, Jackie Kelly, Jacqueline Cox, Cindy Zamites, and Rhonda Lawson.



Photos by Joan M. Smith

A Friend Helps Celebrate

It was a stormy day but Bishop Matthew Clark kept his promise and was on hand at Cardinal Mooney to help the class of '80 celebrate their "100 Days," March 14. Greeting him when he arrived were senior class officers — Paulette Gaudino, treasurer; John Dell'Anno, president; Diana Georger, vice president; Margaret Lenane, secretary. The class presented the Bishop with carnations and a Cardinal Mooney T-shirt. He celebrated Mass for the seniors and then joined them for breakfast.

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